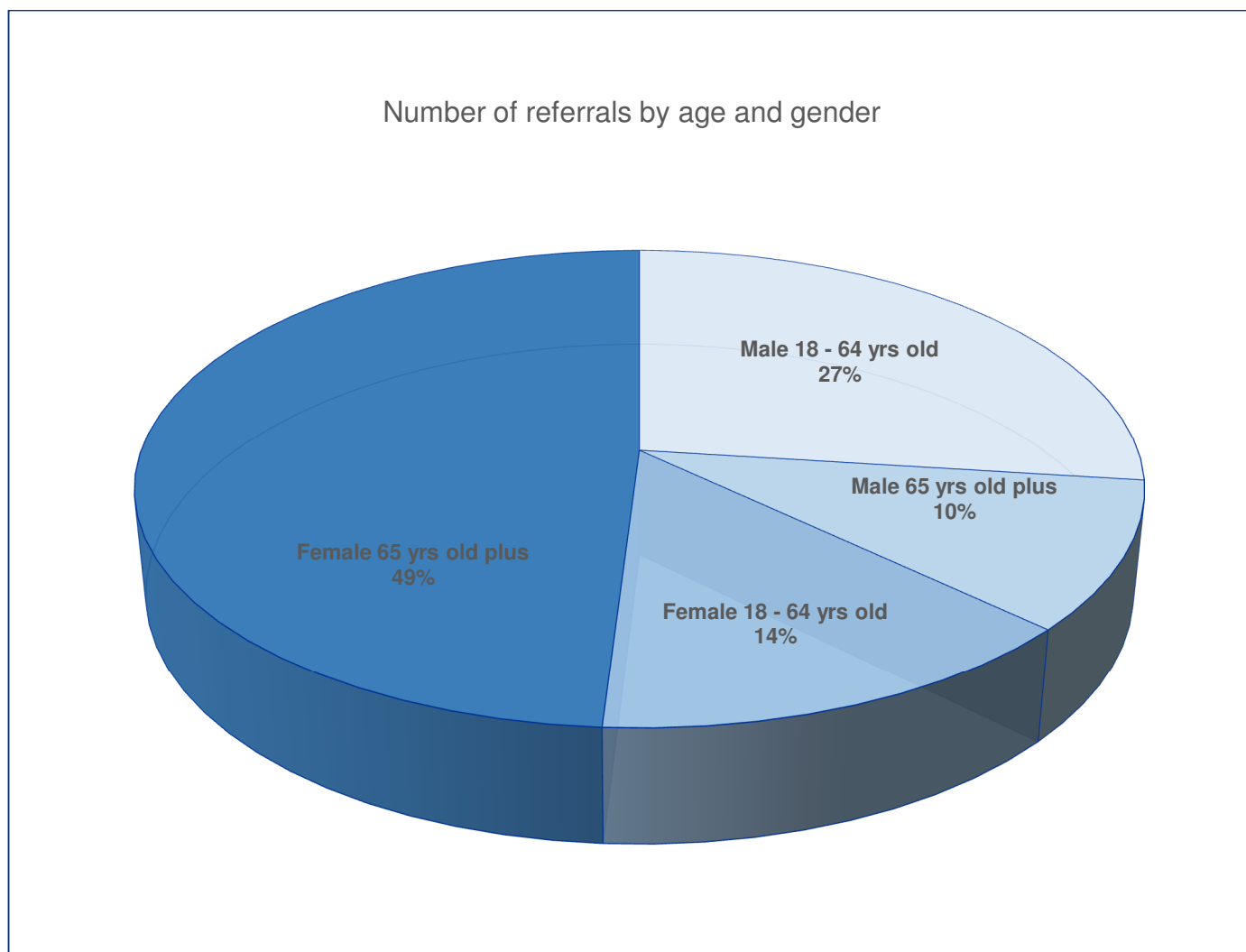
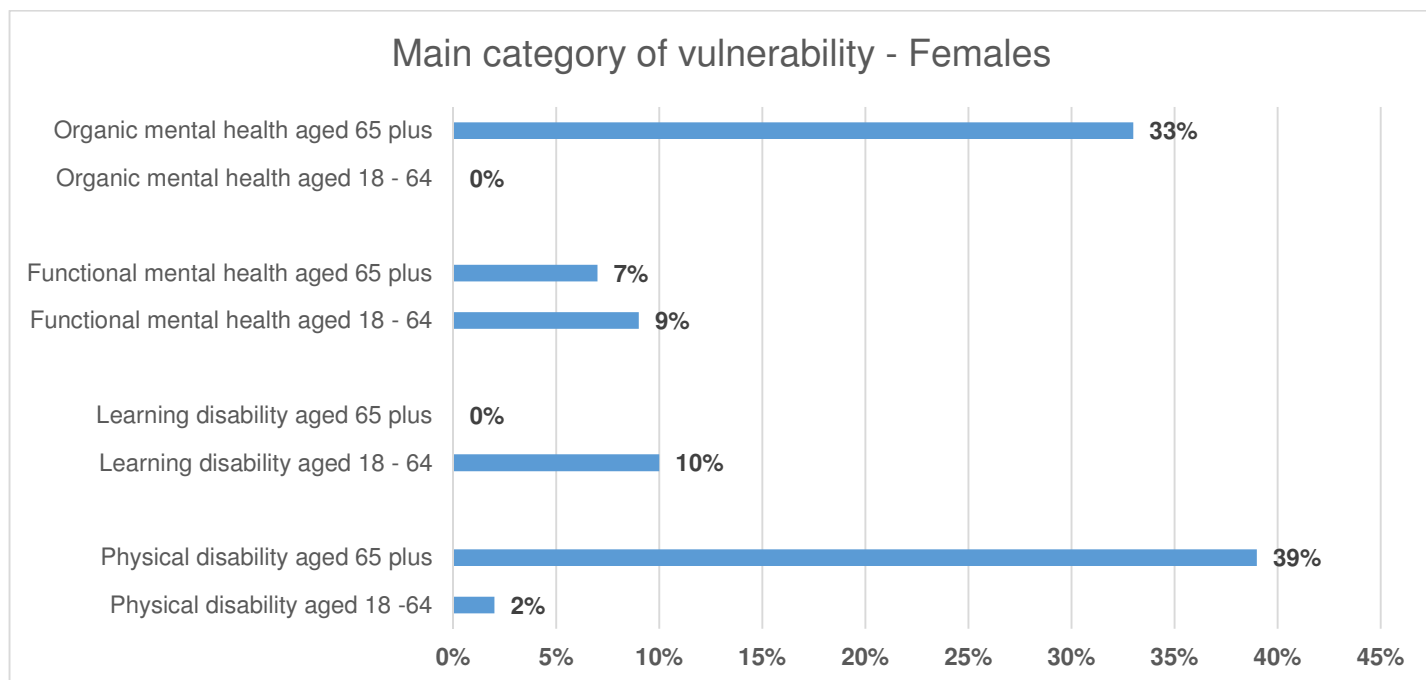
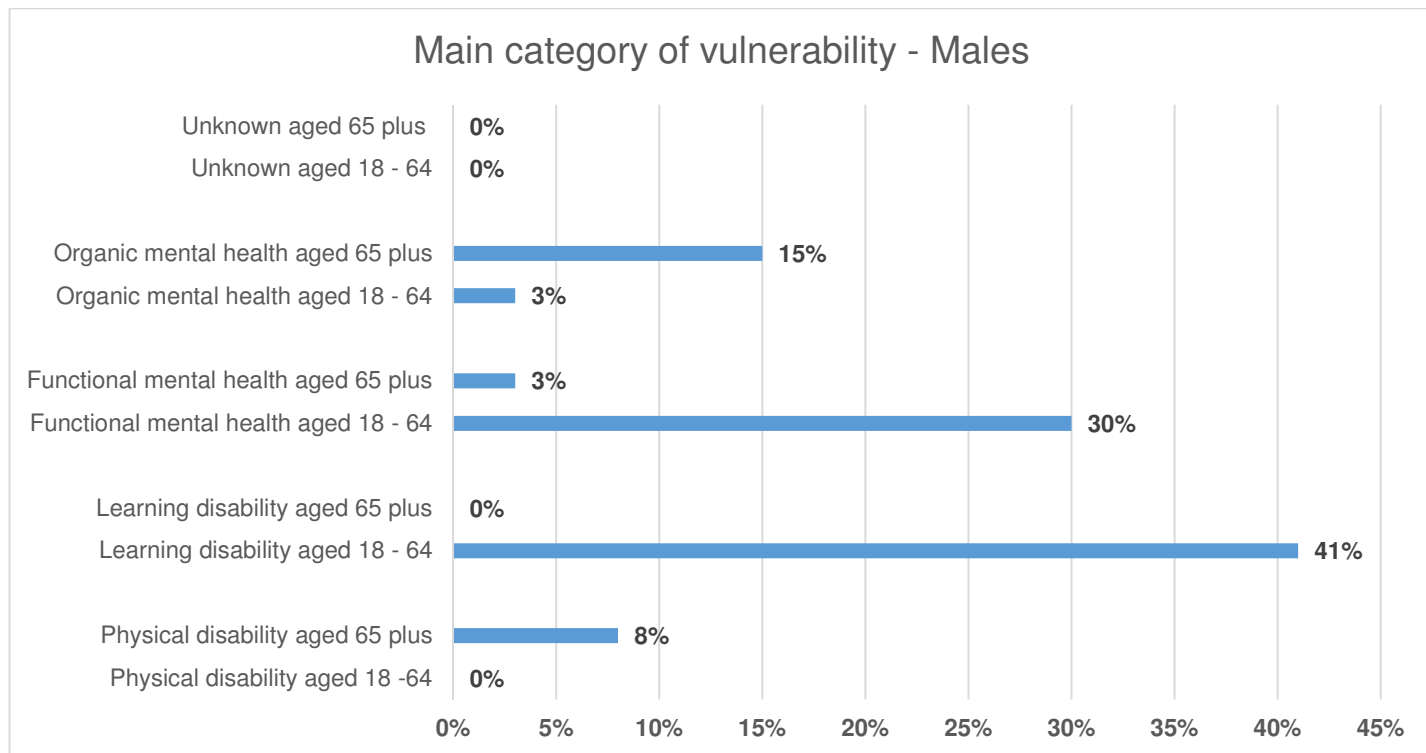


Total number of completed referrals, year ending March 2015

Women remain the highest category for being the alleged victims of abuse. Males aged 18 – 64 years old have remained the second highest category within Denbighshire. However there has been a 9% decrease in males aged over 65 years compared to last year's data. Recent data shows that categories can rise and fall year on year, we will need to monitor this over the next 12 months. As with previous trends across Wales, women aged over 65 has increased; we have experienced a 7% rise in this category compared with last year's data.

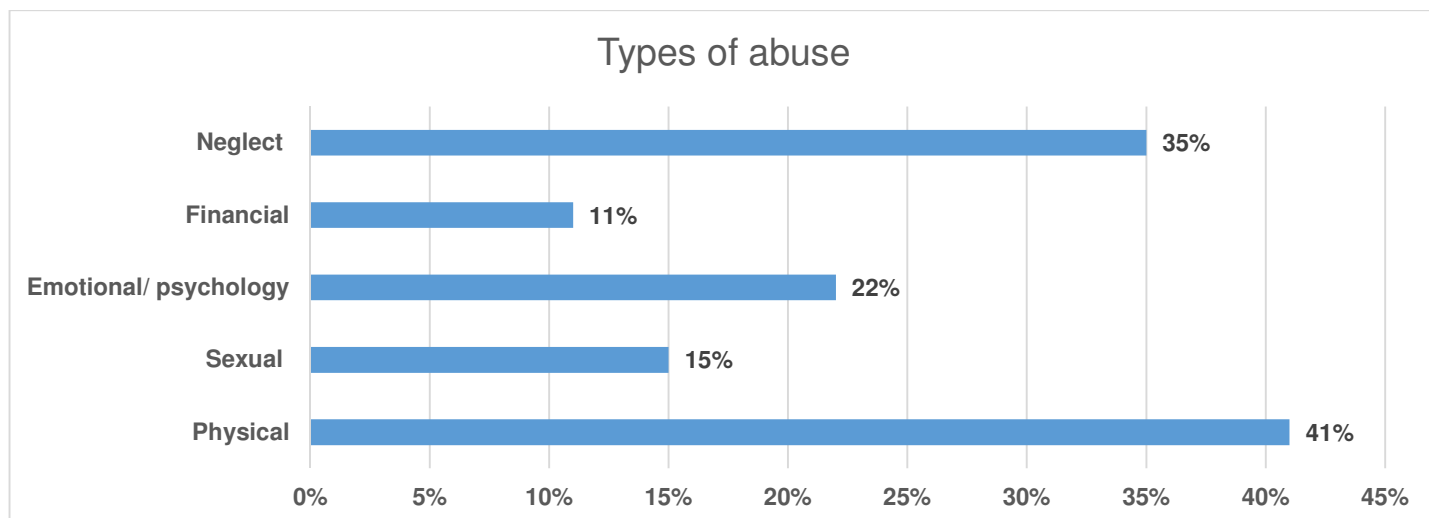
Main category of vulnerability



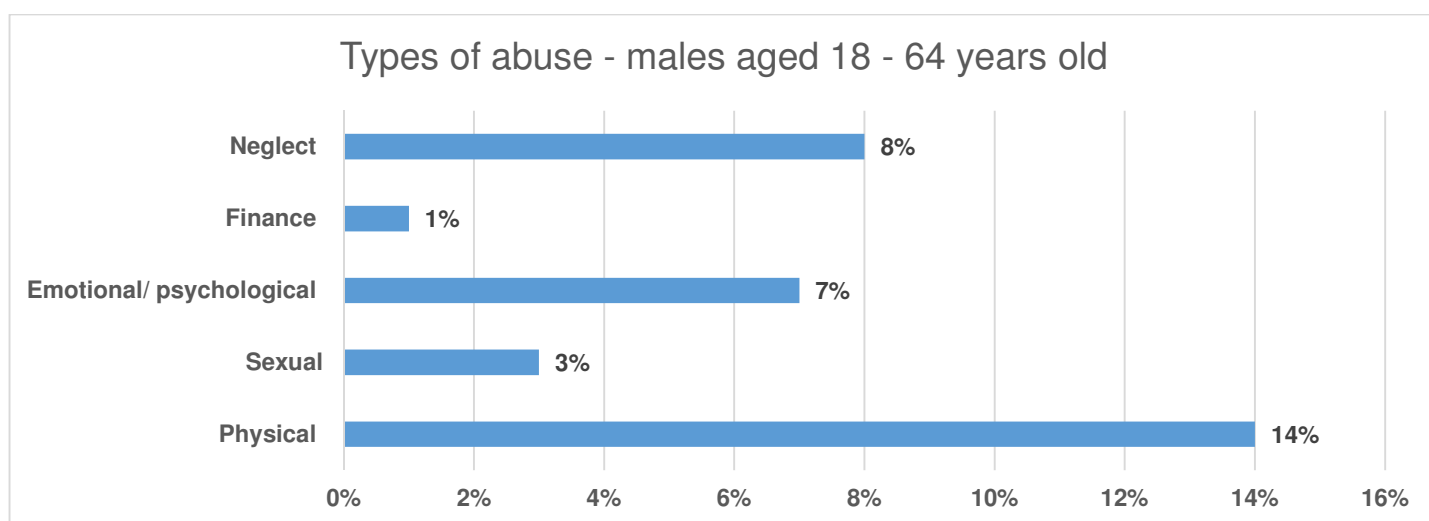
In 49% of female cases the victim was aged 65 plus and 14% were under 65%.

Females aged over 65 remains the highest category of vulnerability, with organic mental health and learning disability being the next highest categories recorded in the recent report from 2015. Here in Denbighshire we continue to see learning disability under 65's being our second highest category which could be attributed to the specialised providers within our area who support young males in both residential/ independent hospitals. As this provider grows and expands there is the potential for an increase in adult protections referrals if current trends prevail.

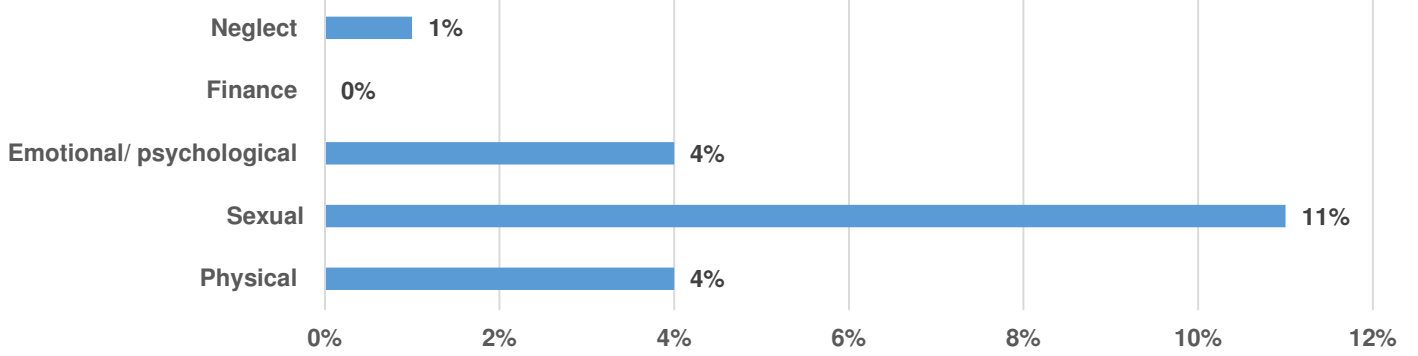
Types of abuse



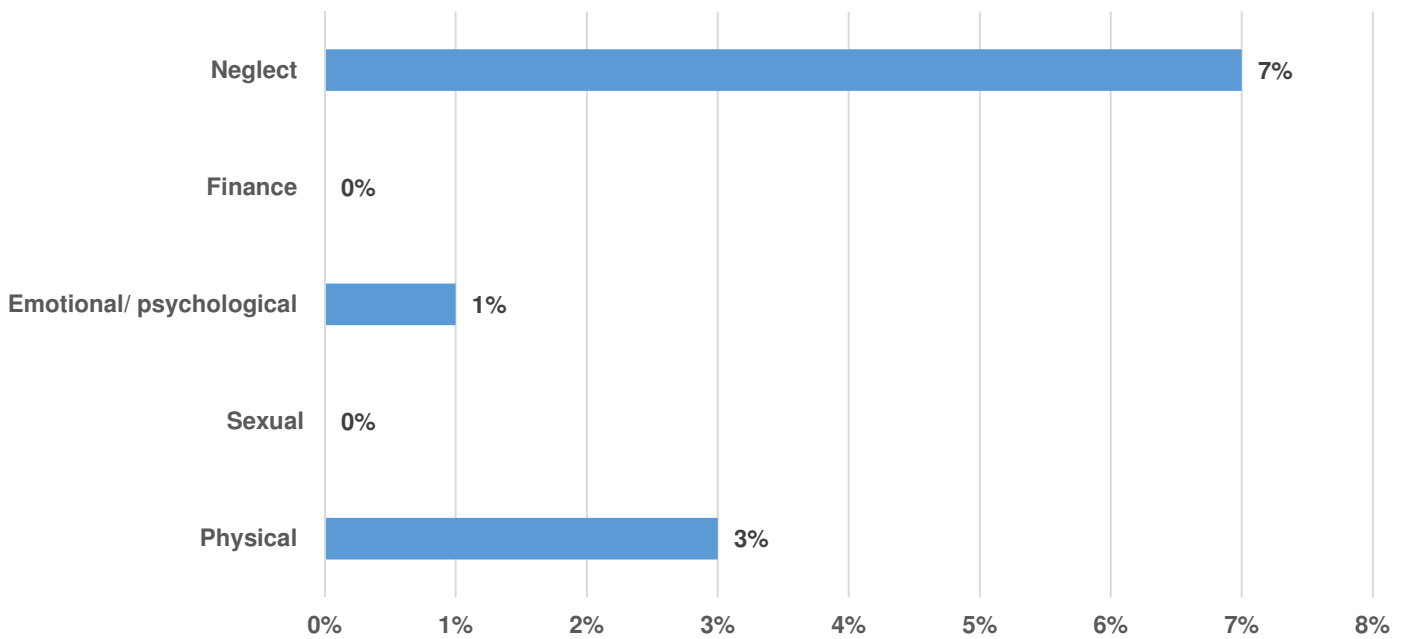
Current figures show that neglect is the most commonly referred concern in 2013 – 2014 (36%). This is followed by physical abuse (32% of closed referrals). Denbighshire followed this trend in 2013 – 2014. However in 2014 – 2015 we have seen physical abuse increase by 5% making this the lead referral of concern. The national trend indicates this is a common occurrence between these two categories, exchanging positions in 2013 – 2014 where physical abuse was the highest concern.

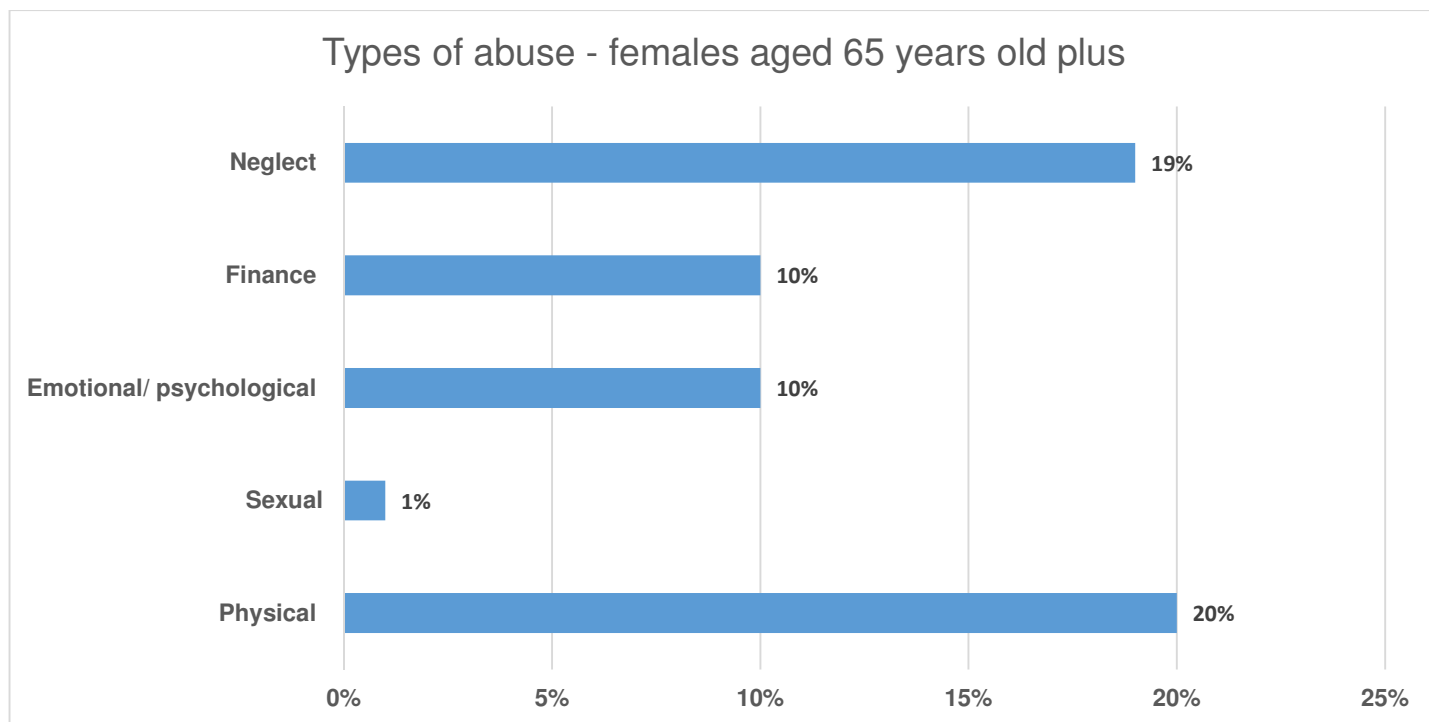


Types of abuse - females aged 18 - 64 years old



Types of abuse - males aged 65 years old plus



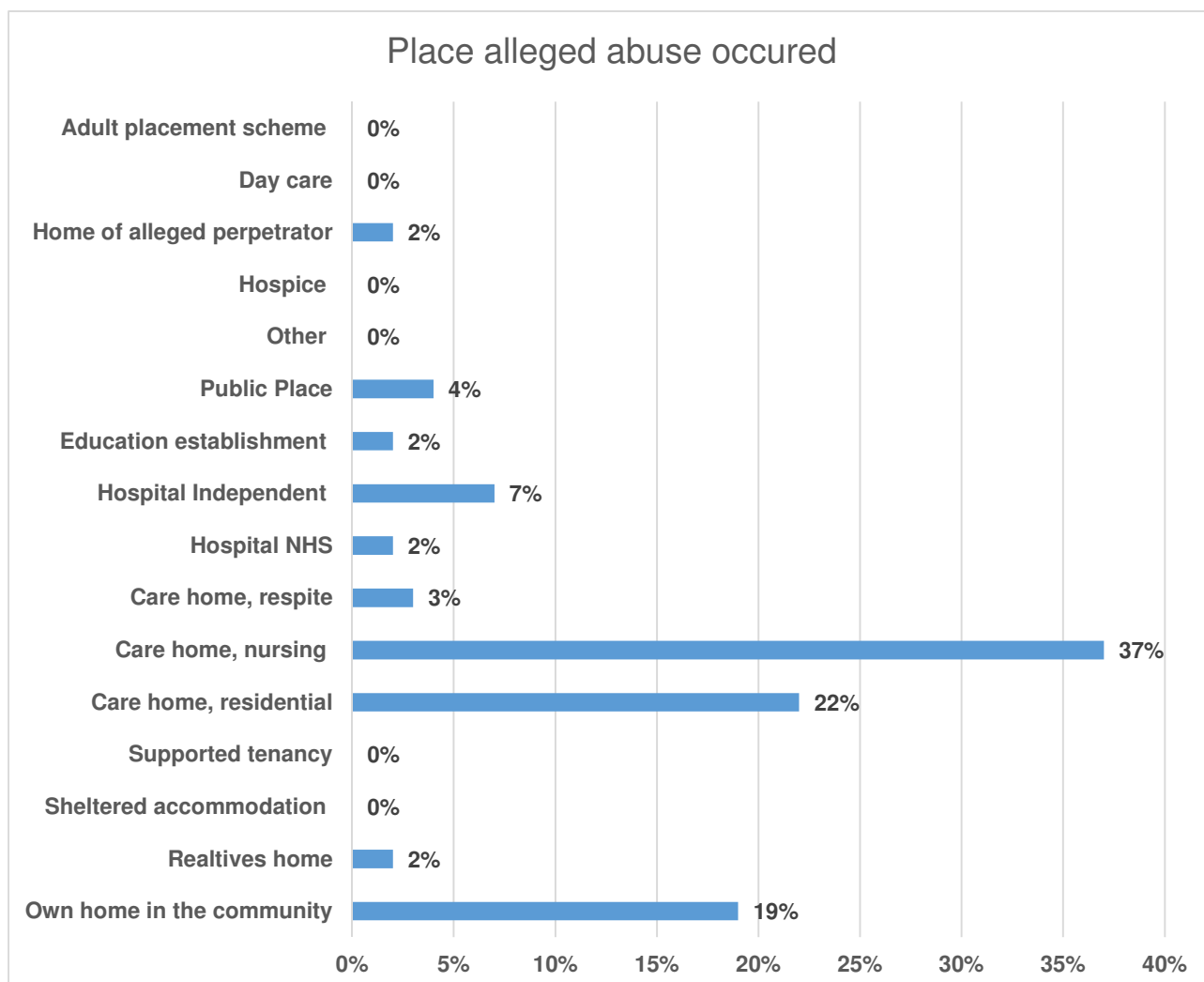


On our previous data neglect remains the highest category of concern for males over the age of 65. Whilst females aged over 65 has seen a 9.9% increase in allegations of physical abuse placing it slightly ahead of neglect.

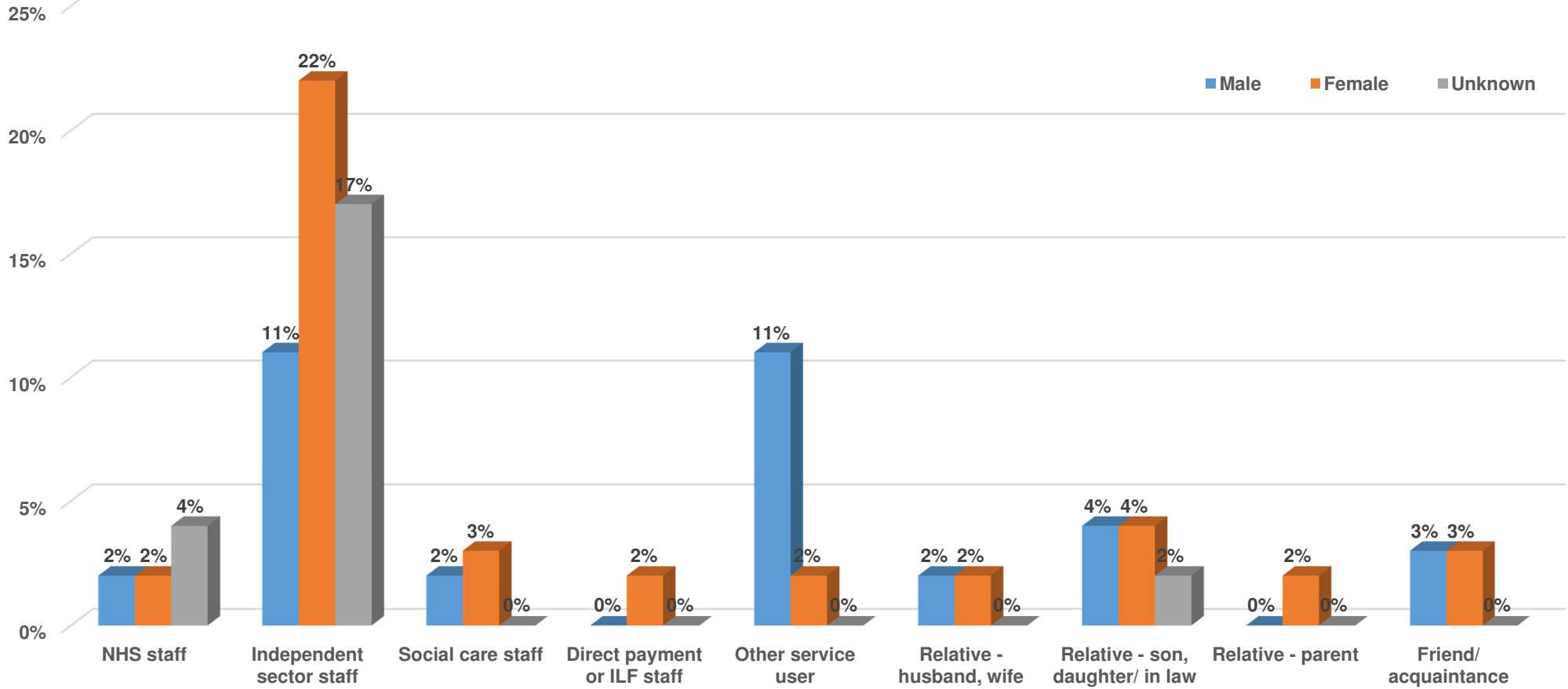
Place alleged abuse occurred

The 2015 All Wales report on data of 2013 – 2014 continues to show that alleged abuse was more likely to occur in the vulnerably adults own home in the community, accounting for 34% of all locations cited, or care homes (nursing and residential homes) accounting for 36%.

In 2013 – 2014 we showed a 12% increase from own home in the community to care home – residential as the leading area where alleged abuse occurred. Now in 2014 – 2015 our data supports a 6% decrease in residential setting but an increase of 21% for nursing home care. This could be attributed to increasing nursing placements due to more complex needs of the service user, therefore making them vulnerable and at risk of possible abuse. Another factor could be the high number of nursing /residential beds within the county, being utilised by other counties. There has been an increase of 3% within own home. Whilst this is more encouraging to see further reports/ referrals have been made, we continue not to follow the national trend. Perhaps identifying that more awareness and training is still required to help identify abuse within the community.

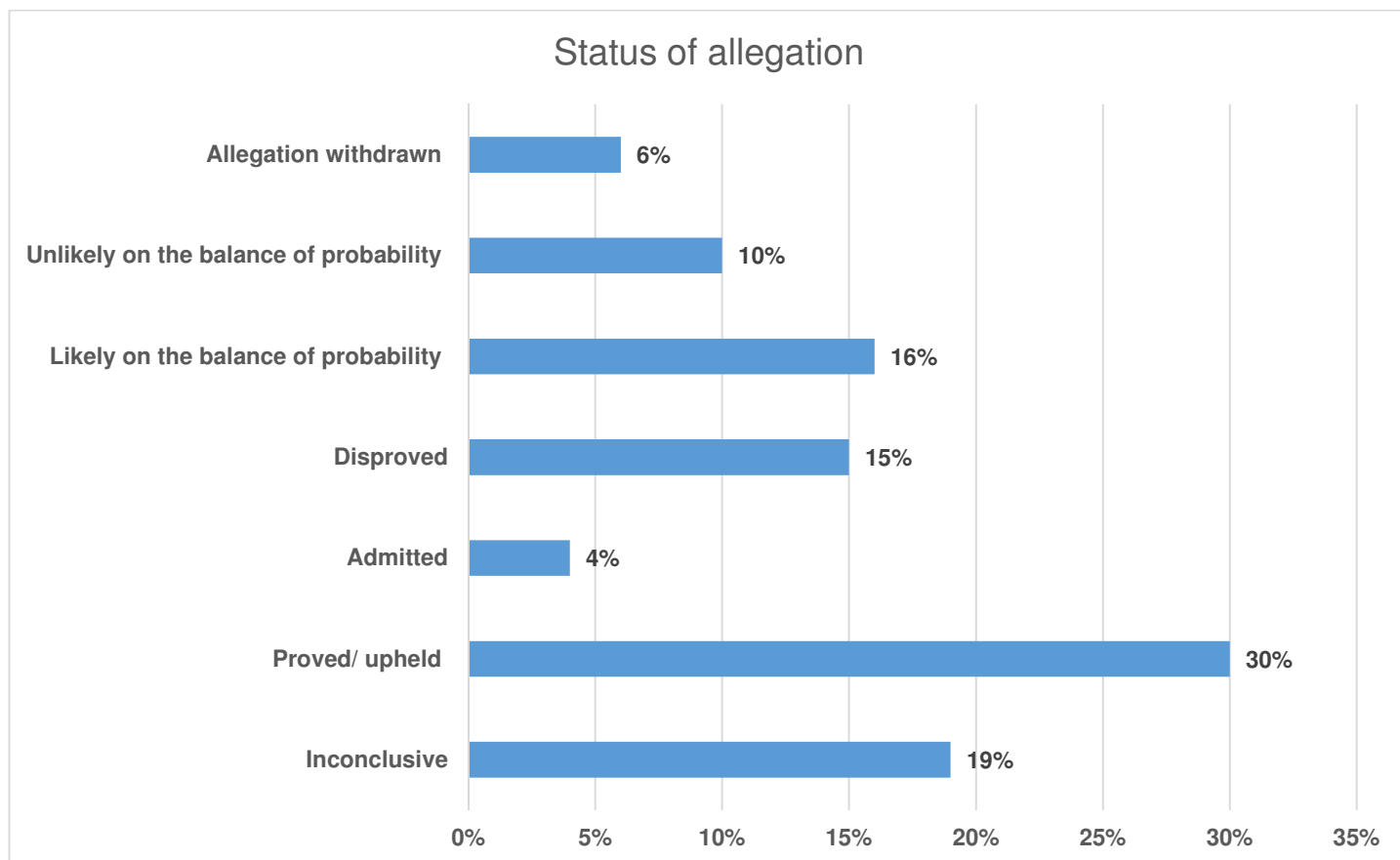


Person alleged responsible for abuse



63% of staff were alleged to be responsible for the abuse, of which, 50% were from the independent sector, not surprising as this was the highest category where alleged abuse occurred. The next highest category combined was relative, friend or acquaintance at 22%. Current data supports that Denbighshire is following the national trend with 56% involving staff being the highest category followed by relatives at 23%.

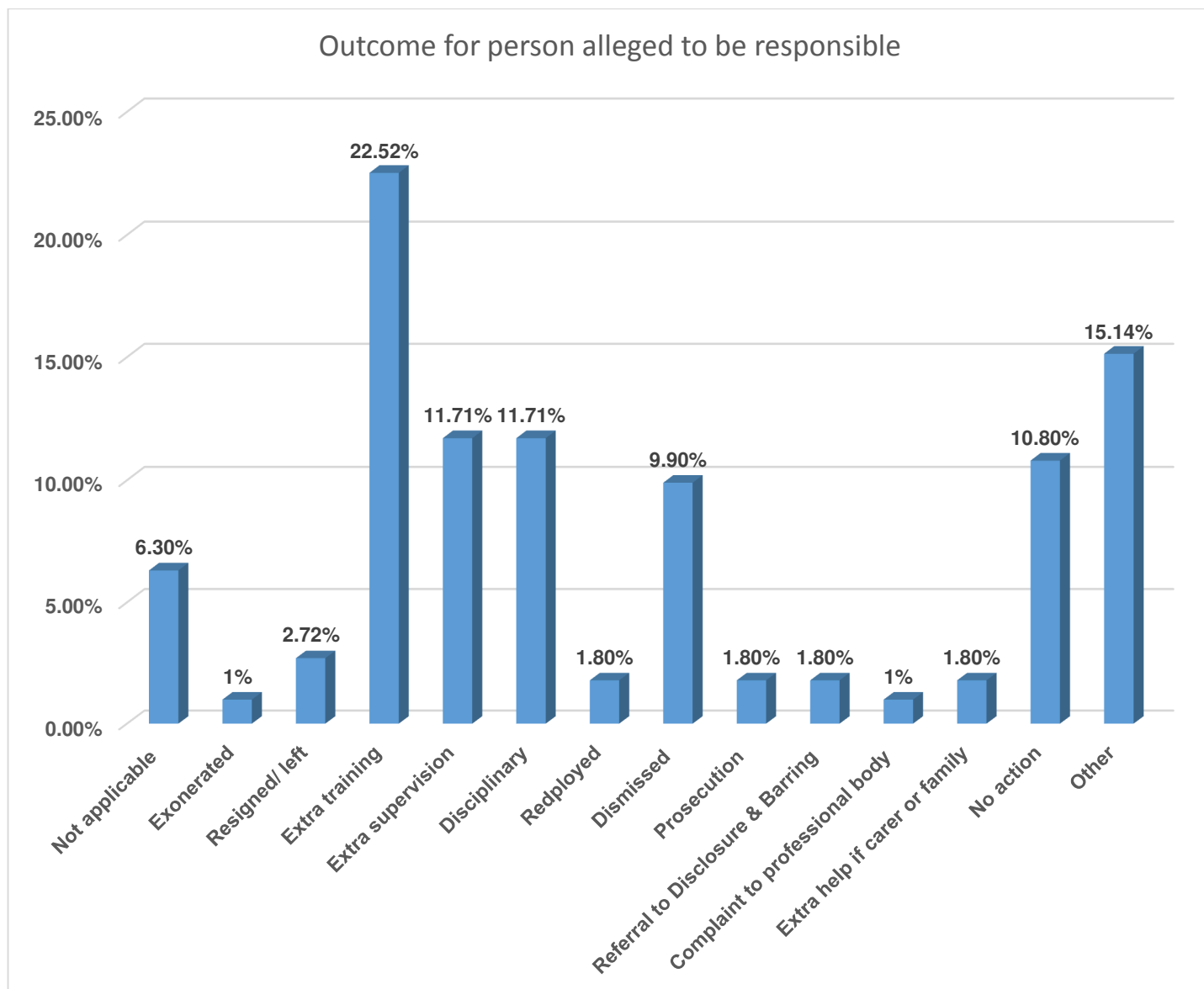
Status of allegation



Current national trends show a 25% increase in proven allegations in 2013 – 2014. Denbighshire have also shown an increase in the percentage of proved allegations in 2013 – 2014; we have had 22% of proved abuse allegations. This has increased by 8% making this the highest percentage regarding outcome, closely followed by likely on the balance of probability. This could be a result of investigation having clearer terms of references being discussed during the strategy meeting process.

Inconclusive remains the second highest outcome and this appears to be the trend across Wales. Although not an ideal outcome, further safeguarding action should reduce the risk of further abuse to the individual.

Outcome for person alleged to be responsible



There has been an increase from 2013 – 2014 of 4.39% in extra training for 2014 – 2015. We have seen an increase in staff being dismissed from 5.46% in 2013 – 2014 to 9.9% in 2014 – 2015 which could suggest that safeguarding is high on the agenda for employers. Prosecution remains low, as it does across Wales, perhaps demonstrating that the threshold to be referred to the CPS is somewhat higher than required for the adult protection process. However there is a genuine multi agency approach when dealing with adults at risk between North Wales police and the Denbighshire Adult Protection Team.

Outcome for service provider

We have seen a change over the years where the most common action was not applicable, possibly as no abuse may have been found, or that there was not an identified staff member. However a positive outcome is that lessons are learnt and policies are revised to improve safeguarding strategies within organisations.

Continuing with this trend within Denbighshire; this is now the highest percentage at 35.52% showing that providers are reviewing their policies and procedures, increasing by 20.75% in 2014 – 2015.

Working closely with CSSIW and Denbighshire County Council's Contract and Commissioning Team further strengthens the measures required to improve safeguards within the county.

